

Watch County Testing July 1-14, 2020

Harrison, Mercer and Upshur Counties

Date of Report: July 30, 2020



Background

Under the direction of Gov. Jim Justice, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) established a pandemic leadership team in West Virginia. As part of that effort, the DHHR Health Command team, Local Health Departments, Local Emergency Management and the West Virginia National Guard developed a plan to increase COVID-19 testing opportunities for the Watch County communities. This testing was undertaken in partnership with Local Health Departments and other community partners.

The initiative worked to reach residents who have struggled to be seen by a physician or who do not have insurance to pay for testing. It provided free, optional testing to residents, including asymptomatic individuals, in counties with evidence of COVID-19 transmission.

An upward trend in the instantaneous reproduction number (Rt) was detected in these counties through daily monitoring of key indicators. In response, DHHR's Bureau for Public Health's leadership rapidly initiated testing events throughout the region to better understand the current level of disease within these communities. Testing was held from July 1 through July 14, 2020 in Harrison, Mercer, and Upshur counties.

The following data highlights the increase in test results of individuals tested during this time frame. Data from additional rounds of community-based testing will be added subsequently.

Of note is the fact that this effort is meant to be a starting point to addressing the issue at hand. It is our hope that the lessons learned and the tools and partnerships developed through this testing initiative can further build upon relationships and systems at the community level to assure education, outreach, testing and follow up care is available to all.

We extend our thanks to all who have made this effort possible, especially the pandemic leadership team and most importantly, the communities themselves.

Results by County

Harrison County – July 1

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	1	0.28%	0	0.00%	1	100%
Asian	1	0.28%	0	0.00%	1	100%
Black/African American	9	2.51%	0	0.00%	9	100%
Caucasian/Not Hispanic	334	93.30%	5	1.50%	329	98.50%
Hispanic/Latino	11	3.07%	0	0.00%	11	100%
Mixed	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other	1	0.28%	1	100%	0	0.00%
Unknown/Not Indicated	1	0.28%	0	0.00%	1	100%
Total	358	100%	6	1.68%	352	98.32%

Harrison County – July 14¹

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	1	0.13%	0	0.00%	1	100%
Asian	4	0.52%	0	0.00%	4	100%
Black/African American	34	4.46%	1	2.94%	33	97.06%
Caucasian/Not Hispanic	707	92.66%	2	0.28%	705	99.72%
Hispanic/Latino	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Mixed	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other	9	1.18%	0	0.00%	9	100%
Unknown/Not Indicated	8	1.05%	0	0.00%	8	100%
Total	763	100%	3	0.39%	760	99.61%

¹ Eight specimens from the Harrison County July 14 Event were rejected for processing.

Mercer County – July 11

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Asian	1	0.38%	0	0.00%	1	100%
Black/African American	37	14.07%	0	0.00%	37	100%
Caucasian/Not Hispanic	210	79.85%	1	0.48%	209	99.52%
Hispanic/Latino	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Mixed	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other	3	1.14%	0	0.00%	3	100%
Unknown/Not Indicated	12	4.56%	0	0.00%	12	100%
Total	263	100%	1	0.38%	262	99.62%

Upshur County² - July 10 & 11

Race	Total Tested	% Pop Tested	Total Positive	% Positive	Total Negative	% Negative
American Indian	3	0.38%	0	0.00%	3	100%
Asian	2	0.25%	0	0.00%	2	100%
Black/African American	9	1.13%	0	0.00%	9	100%
Caucasian/Not Hispanic	772	96.98%	0	0.00%	772	100%
Hispanic/Latino	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Mixed	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other	5	0.63%	0	0.00%	5	100%
Unknown/Not Indicated	5	0.63%	0	0.00%	5	100%
Total	796	100%	0	0.00%	796	100%

 $^{^2}$ Four Specimens from the Upshur County Testing Event were rejected for processing. One additional Specimen is considered Indeterminate.

Attendance by County by Race Watch County Testing







